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Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER *Volume 19 • Number 11 • April 15, 2003*

MFRI Opens New Training Center

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Four Faculty to Receive System-Wide Recognition

At its April 11 meeting at Towson University, the University System of Maryland Board of Regents will present the Regents' Faculty Awards for Excellence. This year, the Regents will recognize 11 faculty members from institutions across the USM for their outstanding contributions in one of seven areas: collaboration, mentoring, public service, teaching, research, scholarship and creative activity.

"These educators, recommended by the Regents Faculty Award Committee, are an example for every person in higher education," said Clifford M. Kendall, chairman of the Board. "Through their hard work, dedication and creative endeavors, they have shown that for teachers and students alike, real learning knows no boundaries."

Recipients will receive $1,000 and a plaque of recognition (though each recipient of an award for inter-institutional collaboration will receive $500 and a plaque). Following are the winners from the College Park campus. For a complete list of system winners,

*See **AWARDS**, page 2*

Netcentric Computer Lab Welcomes Dell

PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Michael Dell (left), chairman and CEO of Dell Computer Corp., tours the new $38 million high-tech wing at the Robert H. Smith School of Business. Dell was keynote speaker for the school's annual "New Frontiers in Netcentricity" conference April 4. Sponsored by Dell, the event offered opportunities to hear about new applications and innovations in technology from a national slate of presenters. Above, Smith School dean Howard Frank (right) and alumnus Rosendo "Ro" Parra ('82) introduce Dell to the Netcentric Financial Markets Laboratory, which provides cutting-edge training in financial modeling and analysis for undergraduate and MBA finance courses.

Business, Education and Engineering Rankings Rise

Graduate programs in business, education and engineering rose in the latest U.S. News and World Report rankings released last week, several of them by significant amounts.

The Clark School of Engineering overall rose from 19th to 16th in the annual survey of the nation's best graduate schools. The Smith School of Business rose from 43rd to 42nd overall, and the College of Education stayed steady at 21st. Five business specialty programs ranked in the top 25, led by business information systems, up one spot to 8th, along with the part-time MBA program (11th, up one), supply chain/logistics (11th, new category), entrepreneurship (14th, up one) and management (24th).

Education specialty programs continued to fare well, with five in the top 10, five more ranked higher than 15th. Counseling and Personnel Services continues to rank first nationally, with special education (5th), rehabilitation counseling (9th), higher education administration (10th) and educational psychology (10th, up one) in the top 10.

Curriculum and instruction leapt from 19th to 11th, while elementary and secondary education each rose two spots, to 11th and 14th respectively. Educational policy and administration and supervision ranked 11th and 12th respectively.

"This means we have more top 15 rankings than any of the university's peers and more top 10 rankings than three of the five peer universities," said Education Dean Edna Szymanski. "I believe that this demonstrates we are very strong across all major areas of education."

In addition to the three-spot jump overall, aerospace engineering jumped from 15th to 10th, while computer engineering held steady at 18th.

"This progress is a reflection of our commitment to excellence," said Engineering Dean Nariman Farvardin. "This commitment is evidenced by our efforts aimed at recruiting outstanding faculty members, strengthening our well-established research programs, launching new research initiatives and developing an outstanding academic experience for our students."

Also in the rankings this year: a new category puts community health (Health and Human Performance) at 12th, while the veterinary medicine program, shared with Virginia Tech, ranks 14th, up three spots from last year.

Conference Addresses Balancing Act of Professional Women

Campus women looking to give their professional and personal lives a boost may want to attend a summer conference designed with their development as its focus.

Scheduled for Friday, June 6 at the Stamp Student Union, this year's Professional Concepts Exchange Conference (PCEC) will work on the theme "A Balancing Act!" Workshops will be offered in the categories of wealth, wisdom, wellness and work; balanced with family, fitness, friends and fun.

A few of the confirmed workshops include "The 1-2-3's of Home Buying," "Auto Care for Women," "Quick Meals," "Getting Along With Difficult People" and "Debt Management Tips." Workshop leaders are recruited primarily from the campus' knowledgeable and diverse resources.

Dianne Sullivan, administrative assistant for the campus ombuds office and co-chair of this year's conference, says, "We have asked some of the favorite workshop leaders, such as Roberta Coates, Tom Ruggieri and the BGs (a.k.a. Barbara Goldberg and Beverly Greenfeig of the Returning Stu-

*See **CONFERENCE**, page 3*

More Activities, More Sponsors, More Fun

Maryland Day is not just for the community outside the university, said President Dan Mote, it is also for the university community itself.

April 26 marks the fifth anniversary of the university's annual open house celebration, as seen on programs and posters all over campus. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 300 activities and exhibits will be available.

Under the theme "Explore Our World," Maryland Day invites people to get a sense of what happens on the campus. David Ottalini, a senior media relations associate, said this university-wide event allows employees to see the work of their peers.

One highlight of this year's event is that it coincides with the 100th anniversary of Frank and Orville Wright's Kitty Hawk flight. The university will work with National Archives II and the College Park Aviation Museum to provide activities related to the flight anniversary.

Maryland Day was Mote's brainchild, Ottalini said. "It's also his fifth anniversary." Mote began his presidency in September 1998. He discovered that the university had "never...had a campus-wide open house," Mote said. He was concerned because he believed the university had a lot to offer. He decided to have the first on the last Saturday in April, which was the same day as the open house for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

FILE PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

On Maryland Day, campus departments sponsor a broad variety of activities popular with both children and adults, such as the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' petting zoo.

"There was a feeling that no one would come," Mote said, because the university was mainly a "commuter campus."

His goal for the first year was to have 25,000 people in attendance, he said. People thought his goal was ridiculous. In the first year, approximately 21,000 people came to Maryland Day. Mote said that while he was "a little dis-

*See **MD. DAY**, page 4*

dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS : APRIL 15-22

TUESDAY

april 15

4 p.m., Physics Colloquium Physics Lecture Hall. With Giorgio Gratta of Stanford University. Refreshments will be served for a nominal fee starting at 3:30 p.m. Free. For more information, call 5-3401.

7 p.m., Frida Kahlo: Healing through Art with Evelyn T. Beck College Park Historic Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road. Interactive slide presentation by Evelyn Torton Beck, Distinguished Scholar-Teacher and professor emerita, Women's Studies. Free; refreshments will be served. Seating is limited to the first 80 people. For more information or to RSVP, contact George Pelham at (301) 982-9550 or Gabriele Strauch at (301) 405-2090.

WEDNESDAY

april 16

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Annual Spring Counseling Center EEEO Program: Presidential Commissions and Campus Equity 0114 Counseling Center, Shoemaker Building. For more information, contact Vivian S. Boyd at vb14@umail.umd.edu.

4-6 p.m., Superintendent's Forum: Superintendents Making It Happen 2154 Tawes Fine Arts Building. With Eric Smith, Anne Arundel County public schools. Part of the Department of Education's Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education colloquium series. For more information, contact Martin L. Johnson at mj13@umail. umd.edu or visit www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE.

7 p.m., Chutney Popcorn Hoff Theater, Stamp Student Union. Film. For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance/new.html.

THURSDAY

april 17

Noon-1:30 p.m., Advancing the Discourse of Diversity Nyumburu Cultural Center. Mitchell Chang, UCLA, will discuss strategies for creating a diverse learning environment and the educational value of diversity-related initiatives. For more information or to RSVP, contact Marie P. Ting, daisy@wam.umd.edu, or Clayton Walton, cwalton@deans.umd.edu.

4 p.m., R.A. Fisher and Randomized Experimental Design 1116 IPST Building. With Nancy Hall, Department of Philosophy. Part of the Committe for Philosophy and the Sciences (CPaS) Colloquium Series. Refreshments will be served at 3:45 p.m. For an abstract of the lecture and more information, visit http://carnap.umd.edu/cpas

7 p.m., Seven Deadly Lies about Race and Sexual Orientation Baltimore Room, Stamp Student Union. Lecture by Keith Boykin, author of "One More River to Cross: Black and Gay in America." For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance/.

FRIDAY

april 18

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Explaining Growth in the World's Main Regions: Regional and Country Studies 1101 Morrill Hall. Four scholars will share their research into factors determining the growth of countries. RSVP required. Contact Jennifer Munro, 5-3721 or jenniferm@iris.econ.umd.edu, or visit www.iris.umd.edu.

Noon, Origin of Vesicular Basalts on Asteroids 1201 Physics Building. With Tim McCoy of the Smithsonian Institution. Part of the Department of Geology's Spring 2003 Seminar Series. Free. Coffee and tea will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Geology building. For more information, contact Karen Prestegaard at kpresto@geol.umd.edu.

Noon, Coming of Age at Minimum Wage 1101 Art-Sociology Building. With Carol Stack of the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Berkeley. For more information, visit www.popcenter.umd.edu.

4-6 p.m., Tran Bathroom Project 4210T Non-print Media, 4th floor, Hornbake Library. Out, transgendered attorney Dean Spade will screen his award-winning documentary about bathroom accessibility, activism and transgendered people. For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance/.

7 p.m., Maryland Athletics and Terrapin Baseball Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day Shipley Field. All faculty and staff are entitled to four free tickets to the game versus Clemson. Tickets can be picked up at the Terrapin Ticket Office in the Comcast Center between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more informatioin, call 4-7070 or visit www.umterps.com.

MONDAY

april 21

4 p.m., Unfolding of a Single RNA Molecule by Force 1407 Chemistry Building. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry presents Carlos Bustamante, University of California, Berkeley, who will give the Russell Marker Seminar in Biochemistry. For more information, contact Vera Harris, 5-1813 or vh50@umail.umd.edu.

4 p.m., Exploring the Possibilities of World History 2110 Taliaferro. With Richard Eaton, University of Arizona. Eaton has published four books on the history of premodern India, focusing on the interactions between the Islamic and Indian civilizations of the time. For more information, call 5-8739 or e-mail historycenter@umail.umd.edu.

TUESDAY

april 22

4-6 p.m., Universities at Shady Grove Open House 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville. Admission and transfer counselors will be on hand to talk to those interested in upper-level, undergraduate or graduate programs. Eight USM schools offer daytime, evening and weekend classes at Shady Grove. Refreshments will be served. For directions, visit www.shadygrove.umd.edu/directions.

For additional event listings, visit www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for *Outlook* is compiled from a combination of inforM's master calendar and submissions to the *Outlook* office. **Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication.** To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or send e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

Awards: Campus Winners

Continued from page 1

go to www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

Excellence in Mentoring

Noel Myricks is an associate professor in the Department of Family Studies. Over the past three decades, Myricks, an educator and lawyer, has mentored students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, demanding quality and setting standards that will prove incalculably valuable for students in their careers and personal lives. Myricks has encouraged promising students, many of whom are minorities, to go to law school or graduate school, and to pursue other professional endeavors. Under his guidance, the University Mock Trial Program has produced nine consecutive regional championships and five national championships. His work has enhanced the undergraduate experience, enriched student lives, and advanced the educational mission of the institution.

Excellence in Teaching

Spencer Benson is an associate professor of cell biology and molecular genetics. A longtime advocate of undergraduate education, he has been a key contributor to the overall design and monitoring of College Park's general education courses and an active participant in the Center for Teaching Excellence.

Benson was a member of the faculty group that launched the innovative, team-taught, interdisciplinary World Courses. He co-designed and co-delivered a novel course focusing on the Nile River, viewed through the prism of the geopolitical and engineering challenges accompanying the construction of the Aswan Dam. He also has helped shape science education in the state as part of the University Task Force on K-16 Education.

Practicing what he preaches, Benson is participating in a $7.5 million National Science Foundation grant to improve instruction and middle school student achievement in science. His undergraduate teaching involves large and small classes, both for life science majors and non-majors. He routinely holds workshops on teaching for graduate students. He has also published extensively and, as invited speaker, shared his findings at many national conferences and workshops.

Excellence in Research/Scholarship/Creative Activity

Elizabeth Gantt is a distinguished university professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics. Gantt is one of the world's leading experts on the organization of the photosynthesis apparatus of phycobilin-containing algae. She was first to identify a group of novel pigmented bodies, which she named phycobilosomes, which turned out to be major components of the light harvesting system of photosynthesis. Gantt's pioneering research covers broad areas of basic importance in cell biology and biochemistry. Her recent research has been directed toward elucidating the structural organization of the photosynthetic membrane during light acclimation.

Some of her more significant accomplishments have included the development of a means by which the topography of the supramolecular photosynthetic membrane complexes could be quantitatively studied in situ. Gantt and her coworkers produced evidence that supports a common origin for chloroplasts of various pigmented algae, previously believed to be widely divergent. Despite maintaining a vigorous and highly visible research program, Gantt's commitments to teaching and service to College Park have never wavered. In addition to teaching, she directs dissertations of graduate students, hosts postdoctoral fellows and serves on numerous graduate student committees. She is one of her unit's most reliable citizens, serving on search and other committees.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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Recognizing Years of Service to the University

This evening, April 15, at 6 p.m., Personnel Services will honor more than 140 employees who have given 20 years or more of service to the university. In its 34th year, the ceremony will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union (refreshments will follow). For a full list of those being recognized, go to www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.* Also, look for an article featuring some of those with the longest records in a future issue of Outlook.

50 YEARS OF SERVICE
Arnold E. Seigel, Instructional Television

45 YEARS OF SERVICE
Audrey S. Duncan, Maryland Cooperative Extension, Talbot County

35 YEARS OF SERVICE
Eugene E. Barth, Physics
James Cornelius, Dining Services
Delores E. Forbes, Mathematics
James F. Harris, College of Arts and Humanities
Barbara E. O'Brien, OIT
Administrative & Enterprise Applications
Joanna F. Schmeissner, President's Office
William Spann, Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Alvin L. Thompson, Facilities Management, Building & Landscape Services
Olivia I. Wallace, Residential Facilities

30 YEARS OF SERVICE
Jacqueline D. Adams, Vice President & Dean's Office for Research & Graduate Studies
Betty J. Anthony Waller, Facilities Management, Building Services
Angela M. Bass, Human Relations
Rosemary T. Blunck, Office of Continuing and Extended Education
John J. Bush, Intercollegiate Athletics
Patricia A. Callan, Office of the Comptroller
Richard S. Davis, OIT – AEA – Student Application Services
Karen D. Haje, Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute
Marjorie Harrison, Facilities Management Building & Landscape Services

*** List continues on Outlook online**

Conference: For, and Hosted By, Women

Continued from page 1

PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Members of the Professional Concepts Exchange Conference planning commitee work out workshop details. Clockwise from left, Ann Morsberger; Mary Crowe-Kokomis; co-chair Carol Cron; co-chair Dianne Sullivan; Sandy George; and Sandy Ratke.

dents Program), to combine their leadership skills with some new presenters, like Jennifer Treger of the Center for Health and Wellbeing, and Sylvia Frankel of the Smith School of Business, who happens to be a black belt in karate."

Organizers worked harder to attract non-exempt staff this year by placing articles in campus publications and distributing a newsletter about the conference to 2,000 members of the non-exempt staff. Materials also went to deans, directors and department chairs so that they, as a sign of appreciation, would encourage their staff members to attend.

The Professional Concepts Exchange Conference is sponsored by the President's Commission on Women's Issues, and has been held for 21 years. Organized each year by a group of volunteers, the PCEC provides a full day of workshops and networking opportunities for non-exempt staff. Says Sullivan, "The conference began as the Personnel Practices Conference in the early 1980s. Several years later awards for outstanding clerical and secretarial staff were developed and winners were announced at the conference." The award is now called Outstanding Administrative Professionals Award.

This year's keynote speaker is Athletic Director Debbie Yow. Her nine years at Maryland have truly been "a balancing act" as she juggled a high-profile career and a busy personal life.

In an effort to keep pace with the technology seen at comparable conferences, the PCE Conference will offer online registration for the first time. At www.umd.edu/pcwi, visitors can submit nominations for the award, browse workshop choices and register for the conference, paying by departmental credit card or with an internal FRS account number.

Faced with the same budget cuts that are affecting the rest of campus, the planning committee has tried to help participants attend the conference. Rather than increasing the registration fee, the decision was made to actually reduce the cost to the same rate it was two years ago.

"The investment by supervisors of $60 for administrative staff to attend a professional conference, participate in informative workshops and network with peers across campus is a valuable one," says Sullivan, who hopes the 21st Annual Professional Concepts Exchange Conference will be the best attended one yet.

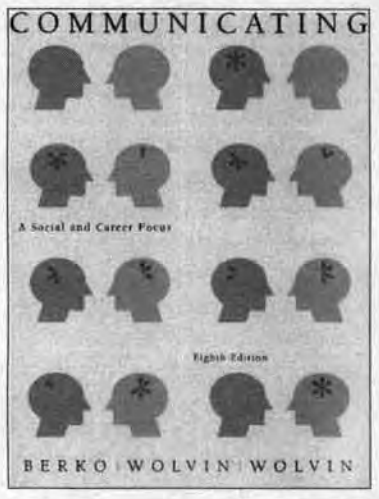
—Carol Cron,
administrative assistant,
Smith School of Business,
and conference co-chair

Book Bag

All of this week's books were published by Department of Communication faculty.

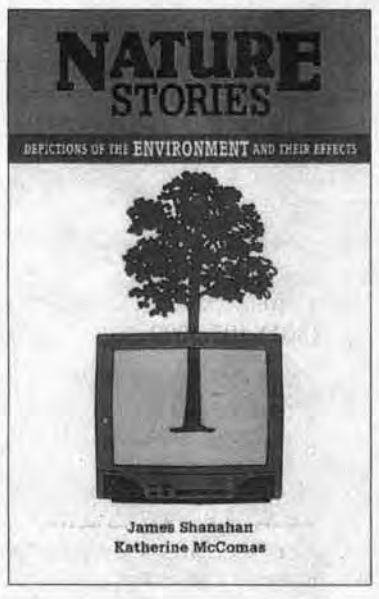
Communicating: A Social and Career Focus, 8th Ed.

Roy Berko, Andrew D. Wolvin and Darlyn R. Wolvin
(Houghton Mifflin, 2001)
Offers comprehensive, balanced coverage of basic communication theory, interpersonal and group communication, and public speaking skills.



Nature Stories: Depictions of the Environment and Their Effects

James Shanahan and Katherine A. McComas
(Hampton Press, 1999)
This book examines relationships between media portrayals of the environment and what people think about the environment.

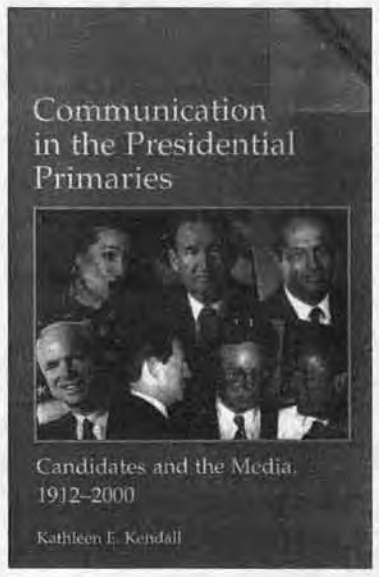


The Gender Challenge to Media: Diverse Voices from the Field

Elizabeth L. Toth and Linda Aldoory (Eds.)
(Hampton Press, 2001)
A series of essays that provide a gender perspective informed by the intersections of race, class and sexual orientation to challenge future communication professionals' contributions to society.

Communication in the Presidential Primaries: Candidates and the Media, 1912-2000

Kathleen E. Kendall
(Praeger, 2000)
Kendall argues that the verbal context of the presidential primaries is an important factor overlooked in traditional studies.



Women in Public Relations: How Gender Influences Practice

Larissa A. Grunig, Elizabeth Lance Toth and Linda Childers
(Guilford Press, 2001)
The authors examine the status of women in public relations and propose concrete ways to achieve greater parity in education and practice.

The Rhetorical Presidency, Propaganda, and the Cold War, 1945-1955

Shawn J. Parry-Giles
(Praeger, 2002)
Parry-Giles challenges the scholarly assumption that the rhetorical presidency refers to presidential messages delivered from the bully pulpit only.

Constructing Clinton: Hyperreality and Presidential Image-Making in Postmodern Politics

Shawn J. Parry-Giles and Trevor Parry-Giles (Peter Lang, 2002)
Focuses on the image of Bill Clinton as defined by and trapped in the hyperreality so characteristic of contemporary presidential politics.

Excellent Public Relations and Effective Organizations: A Study of Communication Management in Three Countries

Larissa A. Grunig, James E. Grunig and David M. Dozier
(Lawrence Erlbaum, 2002)
This book is the final product of the "excellence project" a comprehensive research effort commissioned by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Research Foundation.

To submit your book to Book Bag, send an e-mail in the above format to outlook@accmail.umd.edu. Cover images can be accepted as jpeg files, which can be sent to cmitchel@accmail.umd.edu. The next Book Bag will appear May 13, 2003.

Maryland Regional Training Center Opens

The Southern Maryland Regional Training Center (SMRTC) officially reopened on April 5 to applause from MFRI faculty and staff, southern Maryland residents and firefighters, and state and local officials. After undergoing extensive reconstruction, the SMRTC is ready to train firefighters and EMS personnel in Southern Maryland.

SMRTC has always been the busiest regional training center and with its new facilities the communities of Southern Maryland will be better served. The new administration building provides students and faculty with a comfortable working and learning environment and cutting-edge equipment. Students will get a good feel for structural firefighting in the multi-level burn building that utilizes high temperature tile linings. Instructors will guide and teach students the fundamentals of firefighting in a safer and more realistic environment. The propane fire trainer simulates Class A, B and C fires and lets students learn under realistic conditions. Having additional storage on site allows for the safe storage and easy accessibility of fire and rescue tools.

University of Maryland President Dan Mote marked the grand reopening as the start of a new generation and a milestone in fire training. He spoke of the special opportunities afforded to the communities with the conglomeration of fire training and academics that the university and MFRI bring to its students and communities. MFRI thanks Mote for continued support of its programs.

—Alyssa Slotkin, managing editor, MFRI Bulletin

PHOTO BY PINOAKE BROWNING

Above (l to r): Harvey Dickson, chaplain of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA); Congressman Steny Hoyer; F. Patrick Marlatt, MFRI assistant director; Steven T. Edwards, MFRI director; Robert Jacobs, second vice president, MSFA; University President Dan Mote; Thomas Mattingly, county commissioner, St. Mary's County (past president MSFA).

Md. Day: Mote Brainchild

Continued from page 1

appointed, everyone else was thrilled." He set another goal that by 2004, 50,000 people would come out for the day. Thirty-five thousand came out the second year. The third year, attendance exceeded Mote's goal for 2004 by 10,000.

The Maryland Day schedule includes many activities sponsored by faculty and staff, who will be available to discuss various schools and departments in the university. Professors even get a chance to display their own literary works at one event.

This year's Maryland Day has 11 sponsors, according to Melissa Sweeney, assistant director for University Marketing. Sponsors include Barnes & Noble, Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., and Microsoft Research. Dell Computer Corporation contributed the most money for this year's event. Radio station Mix 107.3 FM is the largest service sponsor, providing approximately $30,000 worth of radio advertising, Sweeney said.

Ottalini said that the university has gotten more sponsors to increase resources "in the face of budget cuts. It's really a way for us to stretch our own dollars."

IKEA, one of the sponsors, has an event called "Trading Places," which is patterned after The Learning Channel television show "Trading Spaces." According to Sweeney, two student teams will switch dorm rooms. Using IKEA designers and resources, these students will try to fix a "specific space challenge," Sweeney said. IKEA wants to introduce itself and its new College Park superstore on Rte. 1, which should open in either late May or early June.

For more information about Maryland Day activities, go to www.marylandday.umd.edu.

—Jamie R. Wellington, journalism graduate student

For Your Interest

Maya Angelou Lecture

The famous poet will speak at the Dekelboum Concert Hall on April 24 at 7 p.m. Author of the bestsellers "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" and "Even the Stars Look Lonesome," Angelou is only the second poet ever to be invited to compose and recite original poetry at a presidential inauguration.

Tickets go on sale April 14 and cost $3 for students, $10 for faculty and staff, and $15 for the public. For more information and tickets, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.see.umd.edu.

MFA Thesis Exhibitions

An exhibition of Master of Fine Arts projects will be held thourgh April 25 at the Art Gallery, 1202 Art-Sociology. The gallery is open Monday through Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, call (301) 314-7774, e-mail ag210@umail.umd.edu or visit www.artgallery.umd.edu.

BFSA Call for Presentations

The Black Faculty and Staff Association issues a call for presentations for its National Conference About Blacks in Higher Education titled "Unity Among Our Differences: Understand, Support, and Progress." It will be held May 28-29 at the Greenbelt Marriott, 6400 Ivy Lane.

Proposals should explore issues related to the theme. All sessions will be one hour in length. All submissions should include:

- Title: maximum of 12 words
- Presenters(s): include name, title, institution/organization, contact information
- Abstract: maximum of 50 words to be included in the conference program
- Description: complete description of the proposed program, including objectives, format (e.g., lecture, panel), audio-visual requirements and intended audience.

Submit proposals no later than April 18 to:

Velma Cotton, Program Committee Chair
3216 J.M. Patterson Building
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Phone: (301) 405-4741
Fax: (301) 314-9794
E-mail: vc46@umail.umd.edu

The Body and the Body Politic in Latin America

The Center for Historical Studies announces its "The Body and the Body Politic in Latin America" conference, to be held April 18-19 in the Maryland Room of Marie Mount Hall. Three conference panels will focus on "Race, Gender and Ethnicity in Colonial Latin America," "Embodying Citizens and Criminals in Twentieth-Century Latin America," and "Normal and Deviant Bodies in Latin American Nation-Building." Participants will come from the United States, Canada, Brazil and many departments at the university.

Conference papers are available online at www.driskellcenter.umd.edu/programs/2002-2003/conf/latambody. For more information, contact the Center for Historical Studies at (301) 405-8739 or historycenter@umail.umd.edu.

With Quite a Bit of Help From Our Friends

Before, during and after visitors take to the campus in droves for the spring rite known as Maryland Day, volunteers combine work and fun to make sure the event goes off with as few hitches as possible. As the university celebrates the fifth anniversary of Maryland Day, a few of those who've been involved all five years reflect on their experiences.

Anita Taylor, special events manager with the Department of Transportation Services, likes to be "out and about." Good thing. Her office is responsible for making sure directional parking signs point visitors in the right direction, people don't park in the wrong places and that campus vehicles have clearance to get where they need to be. Taylor and crew also help with attendance figures by placing counters at all campus entrances and figuring an average of three people per car. When asked if all this makes for a long day, Taylor says not really.

"We're here before it starts, but we leave by 4:30 or 5. It's really enjoyable."

Tricia Losavio, assistant director for sport clubs with Campus Recreation Services (CRS), helps turn the gymnasiums of the recreation center into a carnival every year. It is a favorite destination for parents with young children. "We give out small prizes and some bigger prizes with drawings," she says. "It's gotten better every year." She credits a supportive set-up crew with helping to get everything ready. What is one of the most popular CRS offerings?

"The kayak. We pull people across the pool; that's it. I guess not a lot of people get to get inside of a kayak." When she can, Losavio likes to get to her own favorite destination. "I always go down and look at the cow."

Maggie Jenkins, administrative assistant to assistant deans of the College of Life Sciences, has pulled most of her hours indoors during Maryland Day. She mans some of the booths, though her favorite volunteer post is with Scope on a Rope. "It's really fun to show the kids," she says. People get a chance to hold a microscope close to every day objects. The image is then shown on a televsion. A mom to two boys, ages 19 and 17, she spent her first years showing them around. Now, "they wander around by themselves." Jenkins, when she gets the chance, would like to spend more time in the agriculture section "where this all started" and visit the insect petting zoo. "I haven't been to it yet, and I work here."

Stefan Sallet, supervisor in Facilities Management's sign and graphic shop, also spends his Maryland Day time indoors, though you'll see his division's work all over outside. "We provide all the signage and banners for the tents." He and crew then spend the day responding to calls about lost, vandalized or damaged signs. "And this is while we're doing our normal work."